

Message Text

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22

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 SSM-05 EB-07

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /134 W

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R 010225Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1292

INF AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS USUN 5784

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, EG, IS, JO, SY

SUBJ: SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE - ISRAELI PRACTICES IN
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

REF: USUN 5721

1. SUMMARY: GA SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC) CONCLUDED
GENERAL DEBATE ON ITEM 55 - ISRAELI PRACTICES IN OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES - NOV 30 WITH STATEMENTS BY KUWAIT, ISRAEL AND
SENEGAL. DEC 1 MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED TO RIGHTS OF REPLY AND
INTRODUCTION OF FOUR RESOLUTIONS WHICH WILL BE VOTED ON
DEC 2. END SUMMARY.

2. SPC NOV 30 HEARD THREE LAST SPEAKERS IN GENERAL DEBATE ON
ISRAELI PRACTICES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: KUWAIT, ISRAEL
AND SENEGAL. IN LENGTHY STATEMENT, KUWAIT (AL-SAYEGH)
REFUTED IN DETAIL ISRAELI CLAIM THAT IT HAS NO POLICY OF
SETTLEMENTS OR ANNEXATION. HE ARGUED THAT TRANSFER OF ISRAELI
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POPULATION TO OCCUPIED TERRITORY, IN WHATEVER NUMBERS,
INFRINGED ON RIGHTS OF LOCAL INHABITANTS AND

OF THOSE FORMER RESIDENTS NOT PERMITTED TO RETURN. DISPUTING
"UNDER 5,000" FIGURE USED BY ISRAELI REP FOR NUMBER OF SETTLERS IN ALL

OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, HE SAID THERE WERE 8,000 SETTLERS
IN WEST BANK ALONE, IN ADDITION TO ESTIMATED 15,000 IN EAST
JERUSALEM. ACCORDING TO HIM "SYNTHETIC ZIONISM" WAS PATTERN
FOLLOWED BY ZIONISTS SINCE 1906, BY WHICH THEY GAINED
CONTROL OF TERRITORY BY ESTABLISHING SETTLEMENTS AND
SUBSEQUENTLY SEEKING LEGAL TITLE ON BASIS OF CONTROL ON
GROUND. HE REJECTED CONTENTION THAT SETTLEMENTS WERE PART
OF A SECURITY AND DEFENSE, NOT CIVILIAN, PROGRAM. AT
CONCLUSION HE ADDRESSED REMARKS TO USDEL, NOTING WITH PLEASURE
US OPPOSITION TO ISRAELI SETTLEMENT POLICY AS
EVIDENCE BY US SUPPORT FOR NOV 11 SC CONSENSUS
AND STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY KISSINGER,
GOVERNOR SCRANTON, AND MOST RECENTLY AMB TOON IN TEL AVIV
SPEECH. HE DECLARED, HOWEVER, THAT US HAD
RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN MAKE
STATEMENTS, THAT "ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS." HE
FOUND IT INCONSISTENT THAT US PERMITTED CONTRIBUTIONS TO JEWISH
NATIONAL FUND AND UNITED JEWISH APPEAL TO BE TREATED AS
CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR TAX PURPOSES, SINCE IT WAS CLEAR,
IN HIS VIEW, THAT JNF AND UJA WERE MAJOR SOURCES OF FINANCIAL
SUPPORT FOR SETTLEMENTS SET UP IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
HE ALSO DIRECTED REMARKS TO EC-9 DELS,
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR "FORTHRIGHT STATEMENT" PREVIOUS DAY
BY DUTCH REP (ON BEHALF OF 9) BUT REGRET THAT NINE OFTEN USED
TECHNICALITY AS BASIS FOR WITHHOLDING SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTIONS
CONDEMNING ISRAELI POLICIES AND PRACTICES. FOLLOWING STATEMENT,
COMMITTEE AGREED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO INDIAN/GUYANESE PROPOSAL
THAT KUWAITI STATEMENT BE REPRODUCED VERBATIM IN RECORDS.

3. SPEAKING AT COMPARABLE LENGTH, ISRAEL (DORON) COMMENTED
ON "SANCTIMONIOUS, HYPOCRITICAL EXERCISE" IN WHICH THOSE WHO
WERE MOST VOCIFEROUS IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT
AND CRITICISM OF ISRAEL REPRESENTED COUNTRIES WHOSE BEHAVIOR
ON BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES WAS "FAR BELOW THE MINIMUM
STANDARDS TO BE EXPECTED FROM ANYBODY AND ... TRAILS MILES BEHIND"
ISRAEL'S CONDUCT. HE NOTED FELICIA LANGER, WHO TESTIFIED BEFORE
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE, WAS FREE TO DO AND SAY WHAT SHE WISHED, TO
TRAVEL FREELY, TO PUBLISH A BOOK AND TO SLANDER HER OWN
COUNTRY. BY CONTRAST HE CITED AS ONE EXAMPLE CASE IN
YUGOSLAVIA (SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBER) WHERE JUDGE WAS
IMPRISONED FOR RECORDING PERSONAL POLITICAL VIEWS IN
PRIVATE DIARY. ON SETTLEMENTS, HE QUOTED AMB HERZOG'S
STATEMENT IN PALESTINE DEBATE, REITERATED CLAIM
THAT LESS THAN 5,000 LIVE IN SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES,
AND DENIED THAT ISRAEL HAD AN ANNEXATIONIST POLICY. HE ALSO
REPEATED THAT, WHILE DENYING LEGAL OBLIGATION TO APPLY FOURTH

GENEVA CONVENTION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, ISRAEL APPLIES THE STANDARDS OF THAT CONVENTION. BY CONTRAST HE ACCUSED SYRIA OF VIOLATING THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION (ON POWS) AND ANTI-HIJACKING CONVENTION.

4. DORON TERMED SYRIA'S ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL ON QUNEITRA CRUDE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN DESIGNED AS A COUNTERATTACK TO DIRECT ATTENTION AWAY FROM BAD PUBLICITY IT HAD RECEIVED FOR "BARBARIC" TREATMENT OF ISRAELI POWS. HE CLAIMED THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF ISRAELI RESPONSIBILITY FOR QUNEITRA'S DESTRUCTION IN THE EXPERT REPORT AND CATEGORICALLY REJECTED SYRIA'S CHARGES. ACCORDING TO DORON, QUENEITRA WAS DEVASTATED BY SEVERAL YEARS OF INTERMITTENT WARFARE. RESPONDING TO EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT SITUATION OF HOLY PLACES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, HE REVIEWED HISTORY OF JEWISH ATTACHMENT TO CAVE OF MACHPELA, SITE OF IBTAHIMI MOSQUE, AND TO CITY OF HEBRON. HE ALSO POINTED OUT DENIAL OF JEWISH ACCESS TO THAT HOLY SITE AND TO WESTERN WALL DURING JORDANIAN CONTROL OF WEST BANK AND EAST JERUSALEM AND ACCUSED JORDANIANS OF DELIBERATE DESTRUCTION OF 34 SYNAGOGUES AND DESECRATION OF JEWISH CEMETERY ON MOUNT OF OLIVES. IN CONTRAST, HE SAID ISRAEL HAS GIVEN ALL RELIGIONS COMPLETE ACCESS TO THEIR HOLY SITES SINCE 1967. HE CONCLUDED THAT THIS DEBATE WOULD PROBABLY AGAIN END WITH RESOLUTIONS THAT IGNORED FACTS AND SERVED TO PROLONG RATHER THAN RESOLVE THE DISPUTE.

5. SENEGAL (DJIGO) MADE HALF-HOUR DEFENSE OF OBJECTIVITY OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE AND ITS REPORT. HE SAID IF ISRAEL WAS NOT VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, IT COULD EASILY PROVE THIS BY LETTING SPECIAL COMMITTEE VISIT AREA.
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HE POINTED OUT OMISSIONS IN ISRAEL'S RESPONSE TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND ASSERTED THAT ISRAEL FOUND ITSELF UNABLE TO REFUTE "OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE" IN THE REPORT.

6. SYRIA RESERVED ITS RIGHT TO REPLY TO ISRAEL AT NEXT MEETING AND CHAIR ANNOUNCED THREE OTHERS ALREADY INSCRIBED TO DO LIKEWISE (UAE, YUGOSLAVIA AND JORDAN). CHAIRMAN SAID TWO ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO SECRETARIAT AND THAT DEC 1 MEETING WOULD BE DEVOTED TO INTRODUCTION OF ALL FOUR RESOLUTIONS AND THEIR DISCUSSION, WITH VOTE FOLLOWING DAY.
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